

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A thermal framing assembly for use in wall framing, comprising:

- a top plate;
- a bottom plate substantially parallel to and spaced from the top plate;
- two spaced vertical studs, each including a stud upper end and a stud lower end, the stud upper end mounted to the top plate and stud lower end mounted to the bottom plate;
- a thermal framing component interposed between the vertical studs and including a component upper end and a component lower end, the component upper end mounted to the top plate and component lower end mounted to the bottom plate, including:
  - an elongated planar web including a longitudinal axis, a first edge parallel to the longitudinal axis, a second edge parallel to the longitudinal axis, a first side, and a second side;
  - a first planar tab extending from the first edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the first side;
  - a second planar tab extending from the first edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the second side in a direction opposite that of the first tab;
  - a third planar tab extending from the second edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the second side in the direction opposite that of the first tab; and
  - a fourth planar tab extending from the second edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the first side in the direction opposite the third tab,

wherein the third tab is in longitudinal registration with the first tab,  
wherein the fourth tab is in longitudinal registration with the second tab, and  
wherein the second tab is longitudinally adjacent to the first tab, and  
rigid insulation having an edge in close and complementary registration with a  
side of the web,  
wherein the first and second tabs are entirely within the same plane and the third and fourth tabs  
are entirely within the same plane.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The thermal framing assembly of claim 12, further comprising mid-span  
blocking, wherein the thermal framing component is mounted to the mid-span blocking.

16-34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously presented) An assembly for use in wall framing, comprising:  
a top plate;  
a bottom plate substantially parallel to and spaced from the top plate;  
two spaced vertical studs, each including a stud upper end and a stud lower end,  
the stud upper end mounted to the top plate and stud lower end mounted to the bottom  
plate; and  
a strip interposed between the vertical studs and including a strip upper end and a  
component lower end, the strip upper end mounted to the top plate and strip lower end  
mounted to the bottom plate, including:  
an elongated planar web including a longitudinal axis, a first edge parallel  
to the longitudinal axis, a second edge parallel to the longitudinal axis, a first side,  
and a second side;  
a first planar tab extending from the first edge at approximately a 90  
degree angle from the first side;

a second planar tab extending from the first edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the second side in a direction opposite that of the first tab;

a third planar tab extending from the second edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the second side in the direction opposite that of the first tab;  
and

a fourth planar tab extending from the second edge at approximately a 90 degree angle from the first side in the direction opposite the third tab,

wherein the third tab is in longitudinal registration with the first tab,  
wherein the fourth tab is in longitudinal registration with the second tab, and  
wherein the second tab is longitudinally adjacent to the first tab.

36. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 35 [[36]], further comprising rigid insulation having an edge in close and complementary registration with a side of the web.

37. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 35 [[36]], further comprising mid-span blocking, wherein the component is mounted to the mid-span blocking.

38. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 35 [[36]], wherein the first and second tabs are entirely within the same plane and the third and fourth tabs are entirely within the same plane.

39. (Currently amended) The assembly of claim 35 [[36]], wherein the first and second tabs are free of apertures.